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agriculturists and the produce of the land had to be carried over to neighbouring fairs or market towns through jungle foot-paths. One or two roads that existed were practically useless, as there were no feeder-roads to connect them with the *pakuthies* in the interior of the taluk. The Member said that the Dewan had promised to look into the affair, when he visited the taluk in 1084, and at the Fifth Session of the Assembly the Chief Engineer was asked to meet the Members of the Kottayam Division in conference to ascertain the most important requirements of the taluk. As a result, a list was drawn up of the important works to be undertaken in the Division by the Public Works Department, and in that list was included the construction of roads in Meenachil. To the possible objection on the score of want of finance, the Member suggested that the Government might adopt the policy of divisional finance in their Budget allotments. The Member concluded by saying that the following were the most important requirements of the taluk, *viz.*, (1) the reconstruction of the ruined bridges on the Lalam–Poonjar road and the construction of a new bridge over the Meenachil river in the Lalam-Ponkunnam road and (2) the widening of the following village foot-paths into feeder cart–roads, *viz.*,

(i) From the Sirkar English School in Bharananganom to Payika in the Lalam-Ponkunnam road.

(ii) From Erattupettah to the Meenachil Proverthy Cutcherry.

(iii) From the Thidanad Pagoda to the Bharananganom English School, crossing Vilanguparakkadavu.

(iv) From Vellapad to the Kuravilangad road.

(v) From the Mankombu road to Kadanad.

(vi) From the Pala Bazaar to the Koothattukulam road through the Ramapuram Proverthy Cutcherry.

(vii) From the 16th mile-stone on the Kottayam–Peermade road to the Mutholi landing place.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

76. Prohibiting the poisoning of certain rivers in the Meenachil taluk for fishing purposes during the summer season.

Mr. K. P. Narayana Pillai (Member, Nominated) said that the people of Poonjar and the neighbouring places depended for their supply of drinking water on the small rivers running in those places, such as the Poonjar, Kavanar, Teekoilar, Meenachilar, Pullukayar and the Velunar, and those rivers ceased to flow during the hot months of the year when water could only be had from hollows and ponds in the beds of the rivers, where water stagnated. The Member said that the water of these ponds was being poisoned

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by ignorant people for purposes of fishing. The people and cattle drinking the poisoned water contracted diseases and much harm resulted therefrom. The Magistrates declined to interfere in the matter, under the mistaken notion that, the ponds being part of the rivers, the acts complained of could not come under the Penal law. The Member referred to the draft rules published in the Government Gazette for the regulation of hunting, shooting, fishing, etc. and requested that, as it might be some time before the rules were brought into force, special orders should be issued to prevent the poisoning of the water in the rivers in the summer season. The Member concluded by thanking the Government for nominating him as a Member to represent the interests of the Edavagay.

Dewan's reply.—The District Magistrate will be asked to make a full enquiry and report on the matter.

77. Improvement of the road from Muvattupuzha to Anchapadi and the bridge at Marady.

Mr. Kanakku Narayanan Sankaran (Member, Muvattupuzha Taluk) said that there was a road from Muvattupuzha to Kuthattukulam, Onakoor and Anchapadi, for a distance of 10 miles. It was constructed by the Government in 1072 as a measure of famine relief. The road was in a cartable condition for 3 miles from Muvattupuzha, and the remaining portion being in a bad condition, the public resorting to the Pambakada Market and other places were put to much inconvenience. The subject had also been brought up at the previous Sessions of the Assembly. There was also a bridge at Marady in a dilapidated and dangerous condition. In the interests of public convenience and safety, the Member requested that the entire road might be made cartable and the bridge pulled down and a new bridge constructed. If the latter was not possible, a ferry might be provided at the place.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

78. Conversion of the village road from Kalady to Manjapra and thence to the Vengur bridge into a cartable road, and the construction of bridges on the road from Perumbavur to Kodanad.

Mr. Iravi Narayana Menon (Member, Kunnathnad Taluk) said that the village road from Kalady to Manjapra and thence to the Vengur bridge ran through thickly populated country and that, the road being unsuitable to cart traffic, much inconvenience was caused to the people of the locality. The bridges on the road from Perumbavur to Kodanad were also in a dilapidated condition. He said that these works had been sanctioned by the Government, but, as they were being unduly delayed, he requested that they might be expedited.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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